

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-4, 11, 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶103 as being unpatentable over the admitted prior art (APA) in view of Masakuni et al. (JP 10-284678). Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. ¶103 as being unpatentable over the APA in view of Masakuni et al., Stearns et al. (US 5895967) and Kirkman (US 6064113).

By this Amendment, claims 1-2 and 11-15 have been revised to more clearly define over the cited references, and in view of the following representations, reconsideration of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. ¶103 is requested.

That is, as recited in the amended claims, signal balls and/or signal ball mounts which are located within the rectangular surface area of a signal plane are electrically isolated from the signal or power plane. Neither the APA nor Masakuni et al., nor the remaining references of record, teach or suggest the placement of ball mounts within a rectangular area of a signal line plane, where some of the balls are connected to the signal plane, and others are isolated from the signal plane.

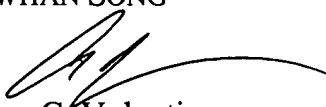
For at least these reasons and the reasons already of record, Applicants content that claims 1-4 and 11-15 define over the prior art.

No other issues remaining, reconsideration and favorable action upon the elected Claims 1-4 and 11-15 now-pending in the application are requested.

Respectfully submitted,

KI-WHAN SONG

By:



Adam C. Volentine
Reg. No. 33,289

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VOLENTINE FRANCOS, PLLC
12200 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 150
Reston, VA 20191
(703) 715-0870